

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

VOLUME XXII, NUMBER 25

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MARCH 16, 1953

Voice of America Is Investigated

Congress Checks on Operation of Our State Department's Overseas Broadcasts

CONGRESS is now investigating the Voice of America, the overseas radio program of the U. S. State Department. Hearings are taking place in New York and Washington before the Senate's Permanent Investigating subcommittee, headed by Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin, and before a Foreign Relations subcommittee headed by Senator Hickenlooper of Iowa.

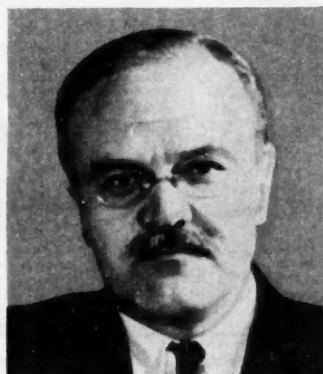
When the hearings started about three weeks ago, it was indicated that the investigating group would be concerned mainly in finding out if there had been waste and mismanagement in the operation of the Voice of America. Since the hearings are expected to run for several more weeks, we cannot present the subcommittee's final conclusions. However, we shall set forth some of the basic facts about the Voice of America.

What does the Voice of America aim to do?

The Voice of America aims to give the people of other countries an accurate picture of American life and to acquaint them with our world goals. At the same time, our broadcasters try to answer the Soviet Union's vicious propaganda that tries to turn the people of other lands against us.

How does the Voice of America get its views to other peoples?

More than 125 separate programs, (Concluded on page 6)



THREE TOP SOVIET LEADERS (left to right): Internal Affairs Minister Lavrenti Beria, Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov, and Premier Georgi Malenkov

What Next for Soviet Union?

Loss of Stalin as Leader Brings Serious Crisis in Russia. Other Nations in Doubt on Whether New Development Points Toward Peace or War

WITHIN about a day after the announcement of Premier Joseph Stalin's death, Russia's high command had officially reorganized itself and put Georgi Malenkov in control of the Soviet state. The apparent speed with which the shift was accomplished leads some people to suspect that Stalin died even before the public heard of his illness. His passing may not have been revealed until after a new pattern for the Soviet regime was set.

The big questions that now remain are these: (1) How well can Malenkov and his present associates continue working as a team, and (2) can they hold together the vast enslaved empire that was built during Stalin's lifetime?

Nobody knows exactly how the situation will be handled. Dictatorships don't have regularly established ways

of transferring power from one person or group to another. When the dictator dies or becomes unable to govern, anything can happen.

For the time being, Malenkov is Russia's Premier. Among his chief deputies are Lavrenti Beria, Minister of Internal Affairs and head of the Soviet secret police; Vyacheslav Molotov, Foreign Minister; Nikolai Bulganin, War Minister; and Klementi Voroshilov, honorary "President" of the Soviet Union. All these men are members of the *Presidium*, the Communist Party group which is now Russia's highest policy council. As reorganized since Stalin's death, it consists of 10 members and 4 alternates.

We still don't know how lasting the present arrangements will be. Malenkov will try to gather and hold full control of the Soviet Union. But will

he succeed? Russia still may face a long period of uncertainty and confusion.

It is especially difficult to make predictions about the Russian situation, because we don't know *exactly* what Stalin's position inside the Soviet regime has been. Various observers have looked upon him as a figurehead. They claim that Russia has actually been controlled by a small group of lesser known officials. Former President Truman once expressed this view by calling Stalin a "prisoner of the Politburo." (The Politburo has since been replaced by the *Presidium*.)

On the other hand, many observers have regarded Stalin as the real boss of Russia—in fact as well as in name.

If it is true that Stalin has *not* been in full control of his country, then the job of replacing him might be fairly easy. If Russia has actually been ruled by other leaders, these men could just assume new titles and continue to run the country.

But if Stalin has been the actual leader, then trouble may lie ahead for the Kremlin. His top assistants were ruthless and ambitious men. If two or more of them start contending for the scepter that has fallen from Stalin's hand, their conflict might possibly shake the Soviet Union to its foundations.

If there is to be a reshuffling of power in Moscow, what effect will it have on major Soviet policies at home and abroad? This is the question that everybody has been asking, and nobody knows the answer. Many factors have to be considered.

First, as we have already indicated, there is the question of whether Stalin's top associates can agree on a peaceful transfer of dictatorial power. If they can't, their struggles might weaken Russia to the point of removing her as a threat against world peace. On the other hand, if someone has an uneasy grip on the controls, he may feel that plunging Russia into war would be the best means (Continued on page 2)



Walter E. Myer

GENERAL Omar Bradley, top officer in the U. S. armed forces, recently wrote a brief editorial which was published in *This Week* magazine. It deals with a characteristic which he calls "working patience."

This characteristic involves a realization that worthwhile objectives often take a long time to achieve, and it also involves a willingness to continue striving toward them. Whatever your goal, Bradley advises, keep working at it—but don't be discouraged if success is slow in coming.

General Bradley applies this philosophy to our nation's peace efforts. There is danger, he feels, that Americans will become discouraged and impatient in the face of today's world conditions.

"By our most Christian standards," he says, "we have acted as well as we knew how. . . . We have pledged every effort toward rebuilding a stable world.

The Need for "Working Patience"

By Walter E. Myer

aiding both our friends and our former enemies. . . . We have given our resources, our energies, our ideals and hopes to the cause of freedom. And yet peace is not abroad in the world." It is now difficult, he admits, to avoid being disheartened.

"At such a moment," Bradley continues, "we need more than ever before the steadying force of patience." We need to take a lesson from our servicemen in Korea, who "do not want to quit, nor to appease the Communist transgression." *Patient steadfastness* is the essential quality.

There are people who disagree with some of Bradley's views on military policy, but few would deny that our decisions, whatever they are, should be made calmly and patiently.

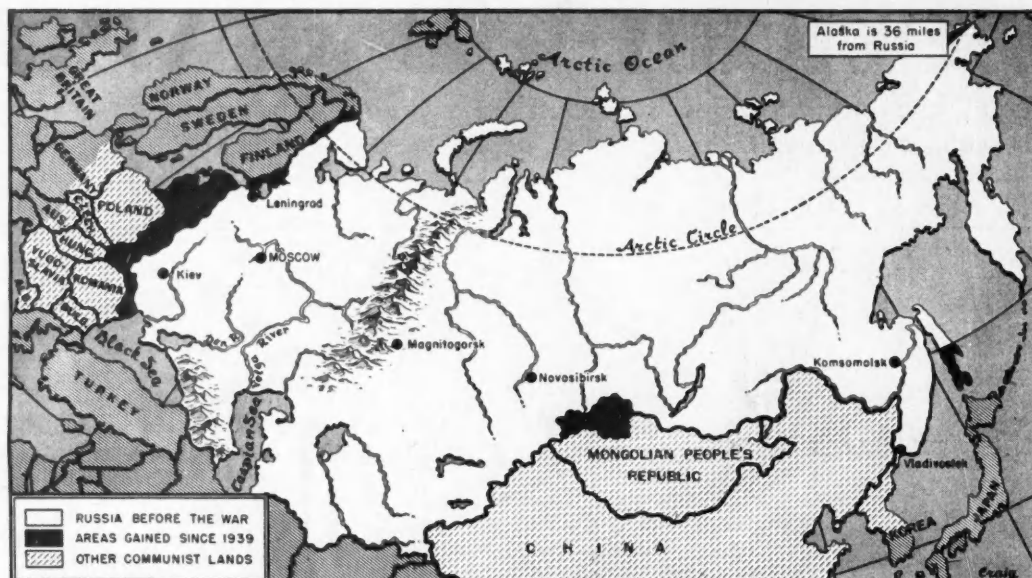
"Working patience" is necessary in many other fields. In your studies, for instance. It takes hard work to master a difficult subject, and it takes time. But, if you are baffled by economics or confused by chemistry, don't give up. Other people have managed to under-

stand them and so can you—after a struggle.

The same rule applies in sports. You can't become a champion tennis player, or even a good one, in a few days. Skill comes through long practice—through the quality that General Bradley calls "working patience." Determination and patience are among the main ingredients of the champion. They have even enabled some people to conquer severe physical handicaps and become great golfers, tennis players, or runners.

Driving a car in heavy traffic demands a particularly well balanced combination of work and steadiness. The driver must be quick and alert. He must at the same time avoid losing his temper and making hasty, foolish moves. As the doctors say, the impatient driver soon becomes a patient.

You will need "working patience" in whatever career you choose to follow. You need it in your personal dealings and relationships with other people. It is one of the most valuable characteristics you can develop.



RULING VAST RUSSIA will be no easy task for the men who take over from communist dictator Joseph Stalin

Soviet Union

(Continued from page 1)

strengthening his dictatorial hold.

One source of worry to many Americans is the general belief that Stalin, after all, was a cautious man. Those who follow him may be more reckless and, therefore, more dangerous.

There is also the matter of *Stalin's prestige*. He has been represented almost as a god to the people of Russia and the satellite countries. He has been a symbol of Soviet unity. Can his successor or successors, lacking this prestige, continue to hold the Russian people together under the communist dictatorship, and to keep the Soviet-dominated lands of eastern Europe under Russian control?

And what influence will Stalin's wishes, up to the time he was stricken, have upon future Soviet policy? Undoubtedly he has left some instructions on various problems. Will these be followed? It may be that we shall hear conflicting reports of what Stalin hoped would happen when he could no longer continue his work. Any Soviet leader who makes a bid for power in Russia is fairly certain to claim that his proposal—whatever it may be—is “just what Joseph Stalin would have wanted.”

Of course, as soon as Moscow announced that Stalin was ill, many observers began to suspect some kind of trickery. A number of people suggested that he had been killed by jealous associates. Quite a few said that the reports of his illness could be false, designed to fool the rest of the world for some purpose or other. It may be a long time before the whole truth is known.

The report of Stalin's collapse was, in any case, regarded all over the world as one of the most important news stories since World War II. In the remainder of this article we summarize some editorial comments that have been made about the development.

Washington Post. “What comes after Stalin, who himself was one of history's most sinister rulers, may be even worse. Who knows? All we know is that even the machine-like discipline of the Kremlin . . . will not assure continuity. Continuity is the great glory of countries having repre-

sentative institutions. The lack of it is the worm that is constantly eating at the vitals of despotisms. . . . We may take it for granted that several years will elapse before authority in Moscow will be able to settle down in a new pattern.

“ . . . The end of Stalin's power . . . may possibly help in the determination of a truce in Korea. Some people think there may be an easement in the threat to Iran. . . . But any such reaction is highly speculative. . . .

“Stalin is sure of a monstrous place in history. But the lesson of Stalin is easier to encompass. It is the lesson that if free men falter or lack in vigilance, Stalinism can happen anywhere. . . .”

New York Times. “The stroke which felled Stalin could not fail to split the orderly pyramid of command and obedience whose peak he was. . . .”

“When Franklin D. Roosevelt died,

the shock was tempered by the knowledge that Vice President Truman would succeed him. There was an orderly line of succession which is simply non-existent in modern totalitarianism. Moreover, even at the height of his authority, President Roosevelt never had anything remotely resembling the complete power that was Stalin's. . . . The very elements of dictatorial rule which made Stalin's power so great while he was in good health now combine to create the greatest crisis in Soviet history.

“ . . . As we contemplate the totalitarian crisis which now exists, we can once again take comfort that in democracy we have a . . . political organization and a philosophy that make no man indispensable and no personal stroke of ill fortune simultaneously a stroke of national catastrophe.”

Philadelphia Inquirer. “[Stalin's] rule is over. His record of infamy and

tyranny has been written, across the wastes of Russia and Siberia, through the mountains and plains of Asia, and in the cities of Eastern Europe, and in every country where Soviet-directed subversion has struck at the roots of freedom. . . .

“Communism today bears Stalin's imprint. . . . He was the author of the policy of ruthless suppression of all dissent. He was the man who made communism the insidious and sometimes bloody tool of Russian nationalism.

“ . . . The aim that motivated Stalin was the expansion of Russian power. That aim will not be lightly abandoned by any of the communist chieftains who hope to succeed to his place. . . .

“In the days ahead, there may be a sharp struggle for power within the Kremlin. . . . But trouble in Russia would not necessarily mean a period of comparative peace in the free world. A death-battle for supremacy in Russia might as easily produce new risks for those outside. . . .

“Of possibly greater hope . . . is that the communists have lost a symbol which helped bind them together. . . . When this symbol succumbs . . . it may have an impact throughout the communist world. It could inspire local communist leaders to challenge the supremacy of Moscow. . . .

“For the United States, the days ahead must be a period of calmness, of careful appraisal, of alertness and strength without letup as Russian communism faces fateful developments.”

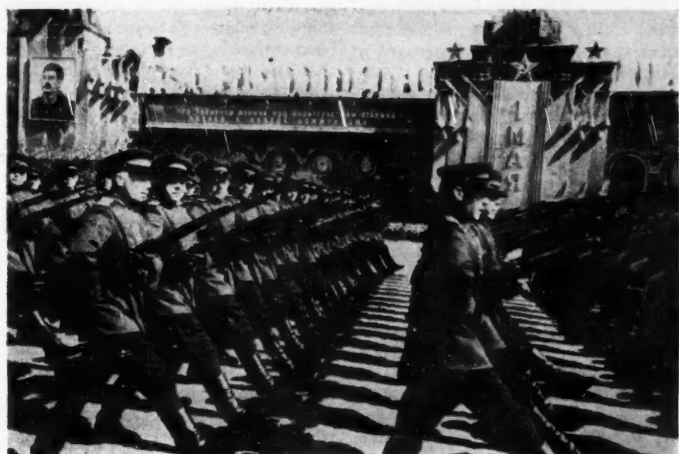
Wall Street Journal. “The only thing we know is that we know little. We may never even know when Stalin died or by what cause. We do not know what other men are doing in the Kremlin or what will be the results of their doing. Those men themselves cannot know the consequences, for of all the forms of state the most unstable and treacherous is the absolute dictatorship where power rests upon a foundation of oppression and terror and where the succession depends upon seizure.”



RED SQUARE in Moscow where Soviet officials gather to watch celebrations. The walled-in Kremlin, government headquarters, is at the left. Also located here is the tomb of communist-heroes Lenin and Stalin.



IT HAD APPEARED for some time that Joseph Stalin was grooming Georgi Malenkov (left) as his successor



WILL STALIN'S SUCCESSOR use Russian troops for war, or seek peace with the free world? No one knows, so we shall have to keep an alert watch.

New York Herald Tribune. "It is possible that Stalin's successor has already been chosen and given title, and that he will move with no more than normal Russian ruthlessness to consolidate his power. Or this successor may confront, now or within the next several years, the kind of opposition which creates vast upheavals in the state and invites the foreign adventures designed to unite a vast population. . . .

"The hour that sees the end of the long epoch of Stalinist rule is not, in any case, one for optimistic assumptions. For all his cruelty . . . Stalin operated, at least of late years, within a certain framework of prudence. He was an old man, who must have felt the time growing short. He had known at firsthand the costs and hazards of war, and he cannot have been anxious [to take unnecessary risks.] What is now to come opens up the awful possibilities of frantic and irrational moves.

"This is hardly the moment to appraise Stalin's deeds or to attempt to place him in history. He has been a massive force, an embodiment of brute power. His life was filled with the sufferings of poverty, persecution, imprisonment, and with all those more subtle sufferings which his crimes must have inflicted on even so unfeeling a conscience as his own. He lived amid violence, with revolutions and purges, wars and assassinations, the ordinary instruments of his power.

"Churchill . . . could see the heroic proportions of Stalin as defender of

the Russian people against the Nazi hordes, and yet could keep the awareness of this man's utter insensibility to the standards and decencies which guide others through life."

Washington News. "Who can say with any knowledge the actual extent to which Stalin was responsible for Russia's present policies, or whether his was a moderating or inflammatory influence in the Kremlin's councils? When those questions cannot be answered, there is little basis for speculation as to Russia's future attitude.

"This we do know: Russian prestige attained unparalleled heights under Stalin's leadership. . . . At the age of 73 . . . he had little to gain, perhaps much to lose, by embarking upon new and dangerous adventures.

"Stalin's successor or successors will inherit a challenging legacy, in a land and under a system where caution may be fraught with more personal peril than reckless audacity. . . .

"Any letdown in our rearmament program based on the wishful conclusion that Stalin's passing is more likely to lead to peace than war will invite risks it would be folly to assume."

Most of the statements made in this country at the time of Stalin's death reflected uneasiness and uncertainty. "Wait and see," was the attitude.

On page 8 of this paper there is a historical sketch about Stalin and the Soviet Union. Page 5 carries biographical material about some of the men who now hold high positions in the Soviet regime.

Our Readers Say—

I particularly liked the articles in your paper in which high school students gave their views on our democratic system. It is well for all Americans to take time out now and then to give serious thought to the meaning of democracy.

ROBERTA CARTER,
Pomona, California

It is my opinion that the federal government should control our offshore oil deposits. The entire nation helps to protect our coastal areas, and any wealth in this region should belong to all Americans, not just those who live in certain states. I hope President Eisenhower will veto any measure that Congress may pass granting the offshore oil to states.

BERVILE LEE,
Portland, Oregon

The states should have a right to any oil deposits that may exist in their coastal waters. The federal government already interferes too much in the affairs of individual states. The line between state and federal powers has to be drawn somewhere. I think the question of the ownership of offshore oil is a good test case to see whether or not the growing power of the federal government can be checked.

REBA FARRAR,
Afton, Virginia

I certainly do not think we should ally ourselves with Yugoslavia. It's true that Marshal Tito is against Russia, but he is a communist nonetheless. We are supposed to be fighting communism, not just Russia.

SALLY ROSS,
Chappaqua, New York

Yugoslavia has the largest army in Europe on this side of the Iron Curtain. Europe needs Tito's forces on its side as much as he needs economic help from the

western countries. Therefore, I think it is necessary for us to work closely with Yugoslavia even though it is a communist nation.

BARBARA FELTHAUS,
Richmond, Virginia

I wonder if General Naguib of Egypt isn't trying to go too fast in his reform programs. I don't think he should have outlawed political parties even though some leaders of these groups may have been corrupt. People must express their views through some form of political organization. Since parties are prohibited, strong underground opposition groups may develop in Egypt.

LAURENCE E. LAGE,
Hickman Mills, Missouri



I should like to comment on plans by the Horace Mann High School to translate its school paper into the Russian language and send copies to the Soviet Union. I don't think Horace Mann should send these papers to Russia because communists twist the meaning of all things that describe our way of life to suit their own propaganda purposes.

MARY BAKER,
Detroit, Michigan

Science in the News

LEADING American and foreign scientists are studying basic problems involved in the defense of our frontier in the North Pole region. The research project—which is known as SIPRE, Snow, Inc. and Permafrost Research Establishment—began only a few months ago as a study project in St. Paul, Minnesota, but is now being conducted in a laboratory located near Chicago.

The laboratory has six ice boxes and a great variety of instruments. Many of the instruments are unobtainable elsewhere and so are built in the laboratory's machine shop. The scientists, with the aid of their machines and instruments, test, analyze and dissect samples of ice, snow and the Arctic's permanently frozen ground called permafrost. Among other things they hope to find as a result of their studies is a simpler way for soldiers in Korea, or in other cold countries, to hack foxholes with pick and shovels from the frozen ground.

In one of the six ice boxes are found ice crystals from the Mendenhall Glacier in Alaska. The scientists have a ton of these crystals and most of their work is done with them.

When working in one of the colder ice boxes, where the temperature remains at 23 degrees, the specialists wear parkas and other cold weather clothes. In another ice box, where the temperature is maintained at 15 degrees above zero, the scientists keep electric saws, lathes, drills and planes for working with the ice crystals. The three other ice boxes have temperatures of 5, 25 and 65 degrees below zero. In the coldest chamber are stored ice, snow or permafrost samples.

The permafrost, or permanently frozen ground, extends down several hundred feet in some areas of the frozen north, and much must be learned about it to help in construction of roads and buildings.

The two grand prize winners in the twelfth annual Westinghouse Science Talent Search were announced early this month in Washington, D. C. First prize went to E. Alan Phillips of Lincoln, Massachusetts, for his science project entitled, "The Compression of Liquids and Gases Under Gravitational and Centrifugal Forces." As first prize winner he will receive a \$2,800 Westinghouse Grand Science Scholarship at the college of his choice. At 15, Alan is the youngest competitor ever to win the award.

Second place prize-winner was Paul H. Monsky, of Brooklyn, New York, whose winning project was a mathematical study of what happens to a beam of light passing through a medium of dissimilar elements or ingredients. He will receive a \$2,000 award scholarship.

Britain is shipping new jet engines abroad dressed in sprayed-on plastic bags complete with zippers. A zipper is laid over the engine and quick-drying plastic is then sprayed on. The plastic forms a tough but pliable airtight coating over the engine's irregular parts as well as over the zipper. If the plastic coat is broken, it can be patched by brushing on fresh liquid. The zippers can be re-used after the engines have reached their destination and been unwrapped.

The Story of the Week

Diplomatic Appointments

In recent weeks, President Dwight Eisenhower has added a number of new members to his diplomatic family. Here are some of the Chief Executive's ambassadorial appointments, some of which must still be approved by the Senate:

Charles Bohlen. One of the nation's foremost students of Russian affairs, Bohlen is to be ambassador to Moscow. The 48-year-old career diplomat was one of the few Americans to accompany the late President Franklin Roosevelt in World War II meetings with the late Joseph Stalin. A graduate of Harvard University, Bohlen speaks and understands Russian.

Francis White. Sixty-year-old White was appointed by the President



WIDE WORLD
Francis White



HARRIS & EWING
Charles Bohlen



WIDE WORLD
Karl Rankin



WIDE WORLD
James Dunn

as envoy to Mexico. White has served in diplomatic posts in China, Iran, and Argentina.

James Dunn. A specialist on matters dealing with Europe, 62-year-old Dunn is to be the new American ambassador to Madrid, Spain. It was in that city that Dunn held his first foreign-service job more than 30 years ago. He also served in a number of South American countries.

Karl Rankin. In charge of the U. S. diplomatic mission to Formosa for some time now, Rankin was named ambassador to General Chiang Kai-shek's island stronghold. In his 24 years of diplomatic service, Rankin represented Uncle Sam in Far Eastern and Middle Eastern lands. He is 54 years old.

Quirino's Competitor

If his supporters have their way, Ramon Magsaysay will run against President Elpidio Quirino for the presidency of the Philippines in elections scheduled for next November. A "Magsaysay for President" movement was launched when the 45-year-old Filipino leader quit as his country's Defense Secretary a short time ago.

Magsaysay resigned from his post, it was said, because of a dispute with President Quirino over the best way to fight communism in the island nation. Moreover, there has been a growing rivalry between Quirino and his popular former Defense Secretary for the leadership of the Philippines.

Magsaysay has made a name for himself at home and abroad for his success in stamping out communist

rebels in the Philippines. When he took over his land's defense post in 1950, the rebels, often called Hukbalahaps or Huks, had an estimated force of 20,000 well-armed fighters and hundreds of thousands of supporters behind them. Now, according to an unofficial count, there are less than 4,000 armed Huks on the loose and only a small number of Red sympathizers in the island country.

Magsaysay built up a strong and efficient army, and he carried out firm military action against the rebels. He also induced many Huks to surrender by offering them good treatment and by helping to promote government measures through which the Huks could acquire land of their own. It was over this matter, according to some reports, that a split came about between Quirino and his former Defense Secretary. Quirino did not approve of Magsaysay's plans for a stepped-up program to distribute land among Huks and their one-time supporters.

Who's to Be Drafted?

Local draft boards across the nation are finding it more and more difficult to fill their quotas of men needed by the armed forces. The lists of youths between 20 and 26 years old, who are eligible for military service, are getting smaller and smaller.

To fill the gap, should 19-year-olds be called up? Ought young fathers be drafted into the service? Should youths who are deferred from military duty because they work on farms or in defense plants be asked to serve in our armed forces? Should draft boards call up college students who are now permitted to finish their studies if they get good grades?

These questions were recently asked of Americans in various parts of the nation by public opinion researcher Dr. George Gallup. In his sample poll, Dr. Gallup came up with the following results:

About two-thirds of those questioned answered "yes" when asked if 19-year-olds, together with deferred farm and industrial workers, should be called into service. Opinions were

evenly divided on proposals to draft young fathers, and a majority of those polled thought certain college students should continue to be deferred from military duty until they finish school.

UN Problems

"What new issues are up for discussion at the current United Nations General Assembly meetings?" a newsmen asked a UN delegate recently. "Why, we haven't even begun to settle the problems that were before us last year," came the reply.

The list of problems before the world organization are, indeed, the same ones that plagued the General Assembly in the first half of its 1952-1953 sessions last fall. How to achieve peace in Korea is still the UN's biggest headache.

For a long time now, truce talks between United Nations and communist negotiators in Korea have been at a standstill. The two sides are deadlocked on the issue of war prisoners. The UN wants the war captives in its hands to be free to choose whether or not they wish to return to communist lands. The Reds insist that the prisoners in Allied hands be forced to return to North Korea or China, regardless of their wishes.

Our leading UN representative, Henry Cabot Lodge, recently called on Russia to end the truce deadlock. He accused the Soviets of using the war prisoners dispute as an excuse to keep the Korean war alive. But acid-tongued Andrei Vishinsky, Russia's top spokesman in the General Assembly, refused to budge on the Red's stand regarding the exchange of war captives. That's where the debate on the Korean war stands as of this writing.

Among other problems that face the General Assembly this year are a peace treaty for Austria and the choosing of a successor to replace retiring Secretary-General Trygve Lie as head of the UN.

Red Cross Month

To thousands of people here and to our servicemen in distant lands, the



WIDE WORLD
RAMON MAGSAYSAY of the Philippines is being considered for the Presidency of his country (see note)

Red Cross is a sign of hope. Needy families, soldiers in Korea and at other overseas posts, and the sick all know that the Red Cross offers help when it is needed most.

In the 1951-1952 year, the Red Cross gave aid to 32,000 families when disaster struck. With the help of other agencies, it collected over four million pints of blood for hospitals here and in Korea. Thousands of Red Cross workers helped doctors and nurses in caring for the sick in hospitals. Through the Junior Red Cross, school children sent 623,000 gift boxes to needy students in foreign lands.

Volunteers carry on the largest part of the Red Cross work. But it takes a great deal of money to pay for the group's far-flung activities. That's why the Red Cross is now asking Americans to raise a fund of \$93 million to support it for the coming year.

Yoshida in Trouble

Japan's government, led by Premier Shigeru Yoshida, may stay in power or fall as a result of decisions made in the Japanese Diet, or legislature, in the weeks ahead. Yoshida's Liberal Party, which has led Japan much of the time since 1946, is now trying to get the Diet to adopt a number of new laws. Some of these proposals are intensely disliked by the opposition Socialist and Progressive Parties.

For one thing, Yoshida wants to put the land's local police forces under the direction of the national government. His opponents argue that the police should remain under the supervision of individual communities. The Yoshida government is also proposing a controversial law which would prohibit workers in the vital coal and electrical industries from going on strike under any circumstances.

These and other measures suggested by Yoshida are expected to lead to bitter debates in the Diet. And, since the Japanese premier can stay in power only so long as he has the support of a majority of the country's legislators, Yoshida may be forced out of office if the lawmakers vote against him.

Indonesia's Tin

The tin mines of Indonesia are changing hands. Formerly run by a Dutch firm, the mines are now being nationalized, that is, the Indonesian government is assuming ownership of the tin industry.

The Dutch agreed to give up their



E. R. SQUIRE & SONS
THE STORY of streptomycin and other "wonder drugs" that save many lives will soon be told in a movie called "And the Earth Shall Give Back Life." The filming of a scene in this picture is shown above.

tin holdings in return for a money payment by the island's government. It was as simple as that! Unlike some seizures of foreign-owned properties in other countries, the transfer of Dutch tin mines to Indonesia came about without violence or bloodshed. Now, the island nation's foreign-controlled coal, nickel, manganese, and oil industries are marked for nationalization in the years to come.

Indonesia is second only to Malaya as a top world producer of tin. Moreover, it turns out more natural rubber than any other country on the globe. The island nation must sell these products abroad to help pay for the food it needs to feed its 80 million people.

Indonesia, located just off the coast of southeast Asia, is the world's greatest island chain. It has more than 3,000 islands, large and small, which together cover an area about twice as large as that of Texas. Nearly three fourths of the island people make their living by farming. Besides rubber and rice, the land's chief crops include tea, coffee, and copra (dried coconut meat).

Russia's Big Three

Three men who now hold great power in Russia are Georgi Malenkov, Vyacheslav Molotov, and Lavrenti Beria. All three were deputy prime ministers under Stalin.

Malenkov, now Premier, seems to be the most powerful at present. In recent years, he has served as Stalin's right-hand man—a position once held by Molotov—and Malenkov was regarded even before Stalin's death as next in line to be dictator of Russia.

Malenkov, now 51 years old, is known for the harsh and brutal way he treats his opponents. He once tackled jobs which made other Red leaders both respect and fear him. He checked the loyalty of communist party mem-



CAN HE MAKE IT? Congress is finding it's not easy to balance the budget and lower taxes, too.

bers and helped Stalin weed out those who could not be trusted.

Except for a few trips to communist lands in eastern Europe, Malenkov has spent all his life within Russia. Therefore, he has not had much experience in dealing with other nations, and probably has a warped picture of the actual conditions that exist on this side of the Iron Curtain. A fanatical foe of the western countries, it was Malenkov who launched the Soviet "hate America" campaign a few years ago.

Malenkov joined the Red army when he was 20 years old. In time he became a communist party member and served for 10 years as a party official. Then he became Stalin's private sec-

retary and his rise to power was under way. As boss of his country's factories during World War II, he boosted Russia's output of planes to 40,000 a year.

Molotov, because of his activities as Soviet foreign minister, is better known in western capitals than are Malenkov and Beria. Nevertheless, he, like Malenkov, is a bitter foe of the United States and other democracies.

Before Malenkov rose to a high place in the Soviet government, Molotov appeared to be Russia's number two boss, after Stalin. Molotov became a member of the Politburo—Russia's top ruling group—at the age of 34. He also won a high post in the country's communist party organization, and acted as Stalin's right-hand man for a number of years.

Molotov, who is now 62 years old, first met Stalin in 1912. The two Red revolutionists became good friends. But communist Russia's first ruler, Nikolai Lenin, thought little of Molotov's abilities. Molotov has also been referred to as "Stalin's stooge," because he always carried out the late dictator's orders to the letter.

Beria is one of the most feared men behind the Iron Curtain. As chief of the Soviet secret police, he commands an undercover army of 250,000 agents. His henchmen are everywhere. They check up on day-to-day activities of all people living under the thumb of the Kremlin.

Fifty-three-year-old Beria, like Stalin, was born in the Russian state of Georgia. The short, stocky, bald Beria rose to power soon after Stalin asked him to destroy all "unreliable" officials in Russia in 1938. At that time, Beria was put in charge of the dread secret police. His agents are believed to have killed or imprisoned countless numbers of Russians who were accused of anti-Stalin activities. Beria, like his other high-ranking partners, is fanatically anti-American. He is now Soviet Minister of Internal Affairs. Beria and Vyacheslav Molotov have both been made deputy premiers under Georgi Malenkov.

SPORTS

BOWLING is becoming a tremendously popular pastime among Americans. Last year some 20 million people are believed to have taken part in the sport. It is estimated that there are now 80 per cent more bowlers in the United States than in 1940. Many schools have bowling leagues, and countless business concerns sponsor teams for their employees.

There are several types of bowling. They include tenpins, duckpins, candlepins, and others. They vary in shape of the pins and size of the ball.

Few people who bowl on today's clean, well-lighted alleys know that their sport got its start as a religious ceremony hundreds of years ago. Members of a religious sect in ancient Egypt would set clubs on end, and then knock them down with a rolling stone. By doing so, they believed they were banishing evil spirits.

The Germans had a somewhat similar custom. Centuries ago the German was accustomed to carrying a club known as a "kegel." He used the club for many purposes—to exercise his arms, to compete with others in throwing competition, and even to protect himself. Sometimes the Germans would place the kegel on end and then try to knock it down with a round



BOWLING is an ancient sport

stone. From the German word for club has come the word "kegel," meaning "one who bowls." It is a term frequently used by sports writers.

The Dutch, who settled in what is now New York City, first brought bowling to this side of the Atlantic. Washington Irving wrote about the sport in his famous tale concerning Rip Van Winkle.

Bowling has had its ups and downs over the years. In the latter part of the last century it was considered a rather rowdy game. Bowling alleys were often dim, untidy places which attracted hoodlums.

But a small group of people who were enthusiastic about bowling as a good, healthful sport vowed to "clean up" the game. They brought about standard rules and sponsored national tournaments. They encouraged bowling-alley proprietors to have spic-and-span, well-lighted establishments. The extent to which their efforts succeeded may be seen in the great popularity which bowling has today. It is now a favorite family sport which is enjoyed by adults and young people.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

A merchant reports he found his cash register had been robbing itself. There's no getting away from it—machines are getting more like humans every day.

"Daddy, what is an efficiency expert?" a small boy asked his father.

"An efficiency expert, my son, is a chap smart enough to tell you how to run your business and too smart to start one of his own."



"I never saw a man who was so fussy about his eggs!"

Someone is offering for \$5 a book on "How to Live Without Money." He doesn't say what he wants with the \$5.

"I think the judge was a little confused."

"Why?"
"Because he gave the Prosecuting Attorney thirty days."

"I was to have met my husband here two hours ago; have you seen him?"
Floorwalker: "Possibly, madam. Anything distinctive about him?"
"Yes, I imagine he's purple by this time."

The patient was fumbling in his pocket.
"You need not pay me in advance," said the dentist.
"I'm not going to," was the reply.
"I'm only counting my money before you give me the gas."

He: "Why did they hang that picture?"
She: "Perhaps they couldn't find the artist."

Voice of America

(Concluded from page 1)

most of which originate in New York studios, are broadcast daily. They range in length from 15 minutes to one hour. About 46 languages are employed, including such tongues as Russian, Czech, Hungarian, and Chinese.

The Voice of America employs about 2,000 people. Many of them are announcers, able to speak various languages fluently, while others write scripts. Still others run the complicated broadcasting equipment.

To beam its programs overseas, the Voice uses 74 transmitters. Of this total, 38 are in the United States, and 36 are abroad. The transmitters in the U. S. are located in or near four cities—Boston, New York, Cincinnati, and San Francisco.

Our government maintains relay stations in the Philippine Islands, Hawaii, North Africa, Greece, and Germany. These stations pick up programs from the United States and send them on farther. Arrangements are also made with foreign stations in some 25 countries to relay broadcasts to near-by areas.

We also are employing a floating broadcasting station, the U. S. Coast Guard ship, *Courier*. The ship moves from one port to another and acts as a relay station wherever it is needed.

What regions does the Voice of America try to reach?

Our government broadcasting agency cannot reach every part of the globe. However, a special effort is made to reach four main regions. They are: (1) the Soviet Union; (2) the Soviet satellite countries—Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and others; (3) fringe countries, on the edge of the Soviet orbit, that are struggling to remain free—Iran and Turkey, for example; (4) countries like Italy and France where democratic governments exist but where there are strong communist minorities.

What kinds of programs are beamed abroad?

The programs vary from area to area. In general, about 37 per cent of the broadcast material is news. Some 51 per cent consists of features—news analysis, discussions, dramatic presentations, and so forth. Music makes up about 12 per cent of the programs.

Is radio the only means by which we try to let other peoples know about the United States?

No. Our government's press service supplies news to nearly 10,000 foreign newspapers. Its motion-picture service supplies films to show what life in the U. S. is like. Many students, teachers, and others come here yearly through an exchange program, while selected Americans go abroad. It is, however, only the radio part of our information program with which the committee of Senator McCarthy is concerned. Senator Hickenlooper's group is looking into all phases of our information program.

Is the Voice of America doing a good job of making friends for the United States?

There is widespread disagreement over this question. Defenders of the Voice believe that the program has wide appeal, while its critics say that

it is not really "selling" the American way of life.

Behind this disagreement is the fact that we lack conclusive evidence, one way or another, on the effectiveness of the Voice of America. Obviously we cannot conduct a listeners' poll in lands behind the Iron Curtain. Even in lands where the governments are friendly to us, it is hard to determine exactly how much influence our radio programs are having in making lasting friends for the United States.

There are, to be sure, a few indi-

ing considerable effect in the Soviet Union.

For one thing, Radio Moscow, the official Soviet broadcasting station, has lashed out bitterly at the Voice of America. The Soviet station has called the Voice of America broadcasters "inveterate liars, humbugs, hardened spies, and other riffraff." This is good indication that our broadcasts are getting through and are worrying the Soviet government.

Other evidence that the Voice is penetrating the Soviet Union is felt to be the attempts of the Russians to curb our broadcasts. For several years they have tried increasingly to "jam" the airways so that the programs cannot be picked up by Russian listeners. The jamming units

tions were located farther south. This is a matter which may be threshed out in the present investigation.

Is the Voice of America operating as economically as possible, or is it wasteful?

This is one of the questions that the present Congressional hearing is attempting to answer. It has long been a subject of controversy.

The operating budget for the Voice of America for the present year totals about 21½ million dollars, but it is expected that the administration's economy drive will result in a downward adjustment of this figure. The operating budget does not include the cost of new construction which may take place. The building of new transmitters may cost several million dollars.

Critics of the Voice say: "The cost of the program is too large in view of the questionable results it is achieving. Moreover, numerous examples of outright waste can be cited. For example, take the case of the transmitters on which construction was recently halted. The mistakes made there are likely to cost the taxpayers several million dollars. All in all, it is evident that the Voice of America is a good place to start saving money for the government."

Defenders of the Voice say: "Radio is the only means of getting the truth behind the Iron Curtain and answering the lies of the Kremlin. If we can sway people to our side in the cold war and prevent a hot war, it is certainly worth 21½ million dollars a year—less than 15 cents annually for each American. As in any large organization, operated either privately or by the government, mistakes are occasionally made. Nevertheless, the Voice, in general, is making good use of its funds."

It is expected that in the coming weeks, Congressional investigators will look into the matter of waste in detail, and will try to determine which one of the views given above is nearer the truth.

What other matters are coming up for investigation in the present hearings over the Voice of America?

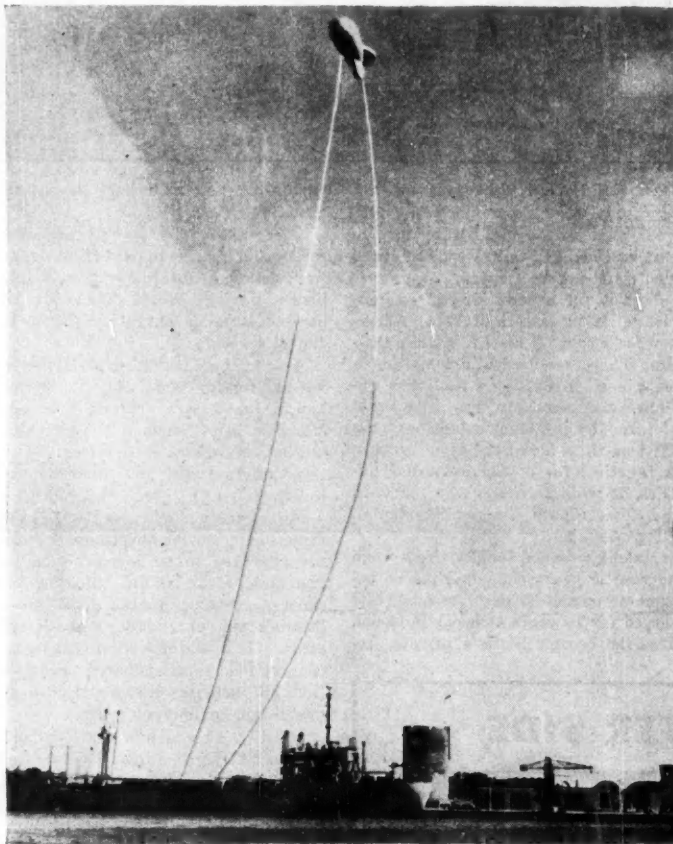
Such questions as these are being considered: What kind of material should be used in overseas broadcasts? Have people who are disloyal to our government had any influence in the Voice of America? Should the Voice continue to be under the control of the State Department? All these questions, it is expected, will be explored at length as the hearings progress.

Is the present investigation being conducted in a fair and impartial way?

There is a difference of opinion on this question. Some claim that the investigation was, in its early weeks, being so conducted as to exaggerate the shortcomings of the Voice of America. It was claimed, too, by some that the critics of the Voice were being given more opportunity to put forth their views than were those who might defend it.

Those who approve of the methods of the present hearings point out that all witnesses are merely called upon to tell the truth as they see it. They claim that both sides will have ample opportunity to put forth their views before the hearings are over.

As further developments take place in the Voice of America investigation, they will be reported in THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.



A VOICE AT SEA. This is a U.S. ship used in European waters as a radio station for Voice of America programs. The balloon holds aloft a powerful set of antennae for beaming broadcasts to communist countries.

cations of the effect of our broadcasts. For example, the State Department reports that letters from listeners total as many as 40,000 a month. They are written on a wide variety of subjects, though most of them contain favorable comments on specific programs. Few letters, if any, however, come from Iron Curtain countries—our number one "target area." Not many people in these lands would dare to express themselves about our broadcasts.

Several months ago the *New York Times* asked its correspondents abroad about the effectiveness of the Voice of America. The results of the survey, covering 44 nations, were mixed. In some countries the Voice was said to be effective, but in other countries it was reported to have little influence.

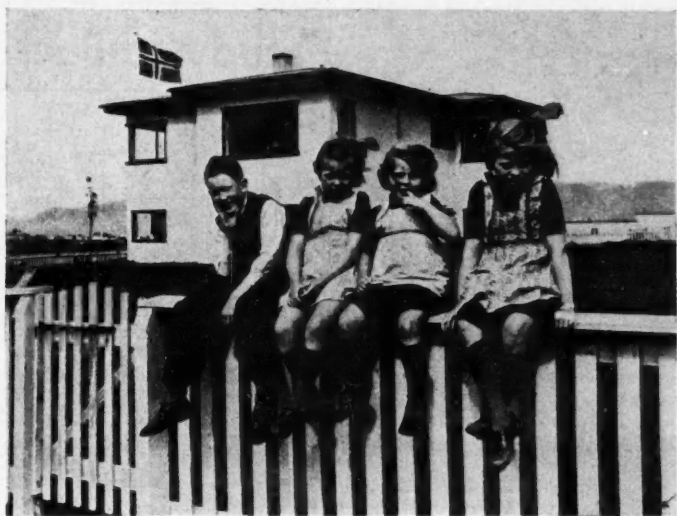
Do we have any evidence on the effect of our broadcasts to Russia?

We do not receive any letters from Russian listeners, nor is it possible to make surveys in Russia. Nevertheless, our government thinks it has evidence that our broadcasts are hav-

ing considerable effect in the Soviet Union. It is estimated by radio engineers that the Russians are now operating 1,000 jamming units 24 hours a day in order to drown out the Voice of America.

The Russian jamming operations are preventing some of our broadcasts from getting through. State Department officials believe, though, that their broadcasts get through to the Stalingrad area about 75 per cent of the time and to the Moscow area about 25 per cent of the time.

To get our broadcasts through to Russia more effectively, the Voice of America is planning to build two new powerful transmitters. But work on the new transmitters has been stopped because of a disagreement over the location of the transmitters, one in North Carolina and the other in the State of Washington. Some engineers claim that broadcasts from these areas would have to pass through the stormy North Pole area to reach Russia, and would encounter magnetic interference which could be by-passed if the sta-



ICELAND'S modern homes and clothing styles resemble those of Denmark, which once ruled the island. The Icelandic language also is somewhat similar to Danish. Young people like those above get excellent educations.

Our Ally, Iceland

Small Island Nation in the North Atlantic Is an Important Air-Sea Base for Defenses Against Communism

STRICTLY speaking, Scandinavia is the peninsula of northwest Europe in which Norway and Sweden are located. However, Denmark is almost always called a Scandinavian country, and, very often, so is Finland. The four countries are linked together by ancient, historic ties. A fifth nation, Iceland, is also closely related to these countries, although located at a fair distance from them.

Iceland, in the first place, was

Population is barely 150,000 or less than four persons to the square mile.

The island is often called the land of "fire and frost." It is situated in one of the world's most volcanic regions, and the volcanoes are frequently active. Yet more than 13 per cent of the island is covered with glaciers and snow. In the north, ice makes the land uninhabitable. Along with the ice, the island also has many natural hot springs!

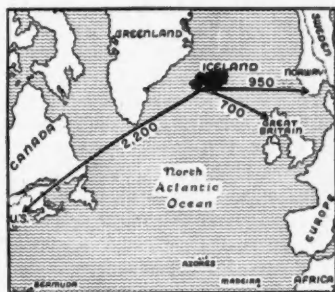
Water, including the hot springs, is Iceland's greatest natural resource. The island has practically no minerals—no silver, no coal, and no iron. Its farming land is limited. Its trees are, for the most part, stunted bushes.

But in its water, Iceland has real wealth. As the glaciers meet the warmer parts of the island, they melt and tumble over steep cliffs to give the country an abundance of water power. Iceland is just beginning to use this water power in making electricity. When installations are complete, the electric power will make up for the coal that Iceland lacks.

Buildings in Reykjavik, the capital city, are heated by water piped from natural hot springs. The hot water is also often piped through gardens so that vegetables and flowers can be grown the year around. Off the coasts, springs of warm fresh water bubble up through the salt ocean and make the area a rich feeding ground for fish. Fishermen can, with little effort, haul in huge quantities of fish. The catches are used for food on the island, and they are exported to enable the Icelanders to buy goods they need from other countries.

Iceland's people are sturdy and well educated. Though teachers in rural areas must travel from farm to farm, spending several days at each, schooling is required for all persons between 7 and 14 years of age. The country has several vocational colleges. The country publishes more books, newspapers, and magazines per capita than does any other country. It is not unusual for Icelanders to speak four or five languages.

The people have to work hard to make a living on their rugged island. Until quite recently, farm families



DRAWN FOR THE AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

settled by Norwegian Viking sailors about 875 A.D.—more than a thousand years ago. During the 13th century, Norway and Denmark shared control of Iceland. Later the island was held by Denmark alone—until 1944, when Iceland declared its independence as a democratic republic.

Iceland's ties with Denmark are still strong, but, in recent years, the island also has drawn closer to the United States. Iceland is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization for defense against communism. We kept forces in Iceland during World War II to keep out the Germans, and we now have military bases on the island as a part of the NATO defense setup.

Iceland lies close to the Arctic Circle in the North Atlantic Ocean, about halfway between New York City and Moscow. The geographical position alone makes the island important as an air base. In wartime, it could be used by bombers as a take-off point for raids on Russia.

In size and population, Iceland is small. Its area of about 40,000 miles is a little less than that of Ohio.

SERVING THE NATION

The Department of Labor

This is the eighth in a series of special features on important government offices and the men and women who run them. This week's article deals with the Labor Department and Secretary Martin Durkin.

It wasn't easy for Martin Durkin to work his way up from a steamfitter's apprentice to become one of the nation's leading labor union officials. Born 59 years ago in the poor, stockyard area of Chicago, he had to quit school after finishing the eighth grade to help support his seven brothers and sisters.

Durkin took a job in a Chicago meat-packing plant. But he wanted to become a skilled tradesman so he eagerly accepted a job with less pay as a steamfitter's helper. At the same time, he studied mechanical drawing and other subjects at night. Then, just as he became a fully trained steamfitter, he put his task aside to join the Army when the U. S. entered World War I.

At war's end, Durkin again picked up the steamfitter's tools and returned to his job. A strong supporter of labor movements, he was elected as an official of the United Association of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry, a member union of the American Federation of Labor.

One of the persons impressed by Durkin's record as a union official was Henry Horner, who was then governor of Illinois. In 1933, Horner chose the labor leader to head Illinois' Department of Labor.

After serving in the Illinois post for eight years, Durkin returned to his union organization and was named secretary-treasurer of its national headquarters. In 1943, he became head of the 225,000-member union.

would gather on the long winter nights to make shoes from sheepskins, to knit and weave other clothes, to carve furniture, or make jewelry. While they worked one member of the group would recite stories from Iceland's history.

There is less need now to make clothes and furniture at home. Still, Icelanders must keep busy as fishermen and farmers. Iceland has one of the world's biggest cod and herring fisheries. Sheep are the chief farm product. Crops include hay, potatoes, and turnips.

Because of his wide experience in labor activities, Durkin is well qualified to supervise the work of his agency and its 6,000 employees. Set up as a separate government Department in 1913, Labor carries out the nation's policies relating to workers and their welfare.

Durkin's helpers include an Under Secretary and four Assistant Secretaries. Another top-flight assistant to the Secretary is the Solicitor. His office handles the Department's legal work, and prosecutes violators of federal laws dealing with labor matters.



CHASE STUDIOS

MARTIN DURKIN, Secretary of Labor

The Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics is Uncle Sam's chief fact-finding office on pay scales, cost of living information, and so on. Data collected by the Bureau is made available to the public through special printed bulletins and in the agency's magazine, the *Monthly Labor Review*.

The Bureau of Labor Standards keeps tabs on how well the nation's laws on minimum wage scales, maximum hours of work, and other rules governing conditions of labor are being carried out.

The Bureau of Employment Security cooperates with individual states in helping to get jobs for workers and in providing unemployment payments to those who are temporarily out of work.

Other Labor Department offices suggest policies for protecting the welfare of women workers; set up and supervise the rules under which workers learn a trade; work with the Defense Department in encouraging workers to fill vital defense production jobs; and cooperate with other nations in seeking solutions to world labor problems.



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR headquarters in the nation's capital

Careers for Tomorrow

As a Court Reporter

YOUNG men and women who can learn to take shorthand at high speed may want to become court reporters. Court reporters take word-for-word accounts of proceedings in courts of law. They must get everything that is said—no matter what subject is discussed or how rapidly a lawyer or a witness may speak. Later they transcribe the notes on the typewriter or read them into a dictating machine.

If you want to become a court reporter, you should learn basic shorthand and typing in high school or in a business school. You will then have to develop speed and accuracy, in both shorthand and typing, either through long practice on your own or by taking advanced courses in a business school.

In addition to learning to type accurately and to take shorthand at a rate of about 200 or 250 words per minute, you should acquire a good understanding of legal, medical, and other technical terms. This can be done through self-study, by spending time in court as an observer, or by taking introductory courses in several of the fields.

You should also learn spelling and punctuation, and you should develop a "word consciousness." This is the ability not only to recognize individual words as they are spoken, but also to group them into phrases, sentences, and paragraphs as you hear them.

Often a young person finds it hard

to break into reporting. Most court reporters like their jobs and leave them only when they are ready to retire. While most of the jobs are held by men, a few women have been successful in the work. Any young person who is qualified, however, should have no great trouble finding employment provided he is willing to work hard.

In some communities, judges select the reporters, but, in others, appointments are based on the results of civil service or merit system examinations. Such examinations are required of persons going into federal court work.

Highly skilled stenographic reporters are employed in places other than the courts. The U. S. Congress and the state legislatures must have such people on hand to take word-for-word reports of debates and testimony given at committee hearings. Other federal and state groups use reporters to record their hearings.

Court or stenographic reporters are privately employed, too. In the cities, particularly, there are reporting services that have staffs of expert stenographers. The services send the stenographers out on special assignments—to record the proceedings at conventions, to assist lawyers in taking evidence, or to do similar jobs.

Salaries for court reporters vary from \$3,000 to \$7,500 a year. The average is about \$5,000 a year. In addition to their regular incomes, reporters make 55 cents or more per



COURT REPORTERS need accuracy and speed

page for transcripts they have taken. Stenographic reporting, either in the courts, or elsewhere, is a career only for people who have the necessary temperament and aptitudes—infinite patience and the ability to become technically perfect in shorthand and typing. Some people find the work routine; others cannot stand the nervous strain of trying to keep up with every word that is said for long periods of time; still others cannot attain the required technical skill.

Information about positions as court reporters can be obtained from the judges and clerks of your local courts, or from the court reporters themselves. A description of the requirements for federal reporting jobs can be obtained from the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D. C.

A pamphlet entitled "Court Reporter" can be obtained for 5 cents from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

Historical Backgrounds - - Soviet Russia

RUSSIA has undergone tremendous changes in the past century. In the 1800's she was an agricultural country where farming was carried on in old-fashioned ways. Peasants—underfed, ragged, and illiterate—worked the estates of the rich. The government of the Russian king, called the czar, was concerned mainly with the welfare of the upper classes. The poor had very little chance to better their conditions.

In 1847 two Germans—Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels—published a document called the *Communist Manifesto*. It urged the workers of all lands to unite and take over the means of producing wealth from private owners. Marx and his followers thought business should be owned by the people as a whole and run by the government.

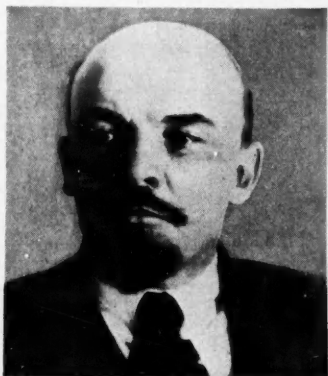
About the turn of the century, a Russian named Nikolai Lenin became interested in the ideas of Marx. He studied and simplified them, and explained Marx to the Russians through a propaganda journal which he published abroad and had smuggled into his homeland to stir unrest. Lenin constantly preached the need for an armed uprising of peasants and industrial workers against the government and the well-to-do people.

The revolution which Lenin wanted finally broke out in the midst of World War I when Russia was fighting Germany. In the spring of 1917 the czar was forced to give up his throne, and a republic was set up. This did not please Lenin, who wanted a communist state. In the autumn the communists

seized power. They set up a communist government of one party—the communists.

One of the minor cabinet posts in the communist government was given to a veteran revolutionary, Joseph Stalin. He had long been plotting against the Russian government, and had been exiled to Siberia by the czar's police. After the revolution he was freed with other political prisoners and returned to Moscow. There he acquired a place in the new government, and soon showed that he was a master at playing politics.

The death of Lenin in 1924 brought a struggle for power among the communist leaders, but Stalin got the upper hand. He had his own ideas of what Marx and Lenin had meant by *communism*, and these ideas became official doctrine. Under Stalin, the



NIKOLAI LENIN was Russia's first communist dictator

Russian government was run by the communist party through a small ruling group. Stalin was careful to appoint only his friends to this group.

Stalin then set about to make Russia a modern industrial and agricultural nation. The government seized control of all industries, and it made every decision about working policies and conditions. Machinery was purchased abroad, and foreign experts were hired to train the Russians how to use the machines. At the same time, the farmers were forced to work on big collective farms owned by the government, and vast numbers who refused were allowed to starve to death.

During the 1930's Stalin ruthlessly strengthened his hold on the government. Communist secret police dealt harshly with those suspected of being disloyal to the ruling group. Countless Russians were imprisoned or executed. The government, at terrific human expense, made progress in building new factories, dams, and other industrial projects. Most of this progress was wiped out, however, when Nazi Germany attacked Russia in 1941.

Since that conflict, the Soviet leaders have attempted to repair the damages of the war and to raise living standards above the prewar level. How well they are doing is impossible to tell because of their strict censorship. We do know, though, that they are spending vast sums for military preparations—sums which could be used for economic betterment. Moreover, their aggressive policies toward other lands have mobilized most of the non-communist world against them.

Study Guide

Voice of America

1. What is the purpose of the hearings now taking place over the Voice of America?
2. Why was the Voice of America set up?
3. Describe the operations of this government broadcasting agency.
4. What are the principal areas which the Voice is most interested in reaching?
5. Why is it hard to know just how effective our radio programs are in winning friends for the United States?
6. What evidence exists that our broadcasts are being heard in Russia?
7. Give several pros and cons on the issue of waste in the operation of the Voice.
8. Why is the present investigation the object of controversy?

Discussion

1. Do you favor continuance of the Voice of America along its present lines of operation? Why, or why not?
2. Do you approve of the present investigation of this agency as it is being carried out? Explain.

Soviet Union

1. What view has former President Truman expressed about the position that Stalin held in the Soviet regime? Do all observers agree with him?
2. Who are some of the top Soviet leaders? Tell what jobs they hold.
3. Why does it create a greater crisis in a dictatorship than in a democracy when the leader is lost?
4. What is the Soviet *Presidium*? Who has been its chairman?
5. Why is it uncertain whether the loss of Stalin makes a world conflict more or less likely than before?
6. What are some of the possible effects that the loss of Stalin may have in the Soviet satellite countries?
7. Assuming that Stalin has left instructions on his hopes for the future, is it certain that Russia's present leaders will carry them out?

Discussion

1. Do you think that the transfer of power from Stalin to someone else in the Russian government can be handled without turmoil? Why or why not?
2. In your opinion, is the loss of Stalin likely to improve or lessen the world's prospects for lasting peace? Explain your position.

References

- "Louder Voice of America," *Newsweek*, March 2, 1953.
 "Voice of America Program," by Dr. Wilson Compton, *Vital Speeches*, March 1, 1953.

Miscellaneous

1. Who is Charles Bohlen and why is he in the news?
2. Briefly describe the reported difference of opinion between President Quirino of the Philippines and his former defense secretary Magsaysay.
3. What is the purpose of Red Cross month?
4. According to Gallup, which groups do the majority of Americans feel should be drafted?
5. What is the most important issue before the United Nations General Assembly meeting?
6. What change is taking place in Indonesia with relation to the ownership of the tin mines of that country?
7. When did communism gets its start in Russia?
8. Is Iceland an independent country, or is it a possession of some other nation?
9. Why is Japanese Premier Yoshida's political future in considerable doubt at the present time?

Pronunciations

- Georgi Malenkov—gě-awr'gī mah-lěn'-kōf
 Lavrenti Beria—lah-vrěnt'i bě-rī-yah
 Nikolai Lenin—nē'kō-lē lēn'in
 Vyacheslav Molotov—vyah-chě-slaf' maw'lō-tōf